

Amendment
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/668,192

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A combined container and garment protection device comprising:

a support section including an open portion, the support section being adapted to support the device about the neck of a user; and

a container section including a pocket to receive and retain items placed within the pocket;

wherein the support section is releasably engageable with the container section to form a handle to facilitate transport of the device prior to being supported about the neck of the user, and the pocket of the container section includes a slot suitably dimensioned to permit at least a portion of the support section to be inserted through the slot to form the handle.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The device of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the support section is suitably dimensioned to cover a majority of an entrance to the pocket when the support section is inserted through the slot to form the handle.

4. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the container section and support section are formed from a continuous sheet of material, with a first portion of the container section being folded upon a second portion of the container section to form the pocket.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of storing items and protecting a user's garment, the method comprising:

Amendment
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/668,192

providing a combined container and garment protection device including a support section with an open portion and a container section with a pocket;

inserting items within the pocket; and

~~engaging the support section with the container section to form a handle to facilitate~~
inserting at least a portion of the support section through a slot defined on the pocket to form a handle that facilitates transport of the device.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[6]] 5, wherein the support section is suitably dimensioned to cover a majority of an entrance to the pocket when the support section is inserted through the slot to form the handle.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
disengaging the support section from the container section; and
inserting the user's neck through the open portion of the support section to support the device about the neck of the user.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein food items are inserted within the pocket.

10. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
forming the container section and support section from a continuous sheet of material, wherein a first portion of the container section is folded upon a second portion of the container section to form the pocket.

11. (New) A combined container and garment protection device comprising:

Amendment
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/668,192

a support section including an open portion, the support section being adapted to support the device about the neck of a user; and

a container section including a pocket to receive and retain items placed within the pocket;

wherein the container section and support section are formed from a continuous sheet of material, a first portion of the container section is folded upon a second portion of the container section to form the pocket, and the support section is releasably engageable with the container section to form a handle to facilitate transport of the device prior to being supported about the neck of the user.